

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 NEW DE 10921 181452Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EA-10 SS-15 SP-02 L-03 H-01 EB-08
INR-10 /060 W

-----072488 181455Z /53

R 180910Z JUL 78
FM AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2832

C O N F I D E N T I A L NEW DELHI 10921

STADIS//////////

STATE FOR NEA/INS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: ETRD, IN
SUBJECT: POSSIBLE INDIAN WHEAT SALE TO KOREA

1. K.P.A. MENON, ADDITIONAL SECRETARY, MINISTRY OF AGRICUL-
TURE, TOLD ECONOMIC COUNSELOR THAT INDIA HAS RECEIVED IN-
QUIRY FROM SOUTH KOREA FOR THE PROCUREMENT OF ONE MILLION
TONS OF INDIAN WHEAT.

2. IF THE PRESENT FAVORABLE MONSOON CONTINUES, HE SAID,
INDIA WILL HAVE TO EXPORT WHEAT TO COPE WITH THE ALREADY
LARGE SURPLUSES. THE KOREAN INQUIRY THEREFORE WAS OF INTER-
EST TO INDIA, BUT IT WOULD BE AWKWARD FOR THE GOI TO BE
RESPONSIVE AT THIS TIME. IT WOULD BE SEEN BY THE U.S.,
MENON SAID, AS TAKING ADVANTAGE OF RECENT CONGRESSIONAL
ACTION ON WHEAT SALES TO KOREA.

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE NOT HEARD THIS FROM ANY OTHER SOURCE,
BUT THE INQUIRY SOUNDS PLAUSIBLE AND MENON'S ASSESSMENT OF
OUR UNFAVORABLE REACTION IS ACCURATE. IN VIEW OF INDIAN
FOREIGN MINISTER VAJPAYEE'S FORTHCOMING VISIT TO KOREA,
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AMEMBASSY SEOUL MIGHT WISH TO EXPLORE THIS MATTER THERE.
GOHEEN

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z
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Concepts: WHEAT, SALES
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Draft Date: 18 jul 1978
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Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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